



U. S. Military Dietetic Internship Consortium

In August 1998, the accredited U.S. Army and Air Force Dietetic Internship Programs joined resources to create the U.S. Military Dietetic Internship Consortium. The Consortium is granted accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education of the American Dietetic Association, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000., Chicago IL 60606-6995, 1-800-877-1600 Ext. 5400. The Consortium is responsible for preparing innovative dietitians for current and future military roles, with an emphasis on military readiness, through supervised practice consistent with the Standards of Education for The Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education of The American Dietetic Association.

The Military Dietetic Internship Consortium is comprised of the following 2 programs:

- 1) The Army Dietetic Internship/Masters Degree program.
- 2) The Air Force Dietetic Internship Program

To apply for the Military Dietetic Internship Consortium you must:

- 1) Meet with an Army recruiter (http://www.goarmy.com/amedd/find_a_recruiter.jsp) or Air Force recruiter (<http://go.mappoint.net/airforce/PrxInput.aspx>) and complete an application. This application must be submitted in early February to be considered for admission into the program the following fall. The application process can take up to 2 months.
- 2) Sign up for, and participate in, the ADA computerized internship matching and request the Army and/or the Air Force.

Army Dietetic Internship/Masters Degree Program: Beginning in the fall of 2006 the Army Dietetic Internship will convert to a 24-month combined Dietetic Internship/Masters Degree Program. The course is offered one time each year and begins on or about 1 October. However, entry into the military occurs on, or about, 1 July for attendance in the 12 week Basic Officer's Leadership Course. The Masters Degree/Internship program is a two-phased, degree-producing program. Phase I, the didactic portion, is approximately 9 months long and is completed at Army Medical Department Center and School (AMEDDC&S), Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Phase II, the internship and research portion, is approximately 11 months long and will be completed at one of four locations: Brooke Army Medical Center (TX), Walter Reed Army Medical Center (D.C.), Womack Army Medical Center (NC), or Madigan Army Medical Center (WA). Students

who successfully complete the program will be granted a Master of Science in Nutrition and will be eligible to sit for the Registration Examination for Dietitians.

Air Force Internship: The Air Force Internship is a 9-month program that is completed at Wilford Hall Medical Center, San Antonio, TX. Air Force interns do not participate in the MS Degree prior to starting the Dietetic Internship. To participate in the MS program you must request and be accepted into the Army Dietetic Internship/Masters Degree program, not the Air Force.

Frequently Asked Questions.

Q: What are the eligibility requirements?

A: The applicant must:

1. Have graduated from a didactic program in dietetics from an accredited college or university.
2. Have verification of completion of Didactic Program in Dietetics.
3. Have current GRE (Graduate Record Exam) of at least 1000.
4. Have minimum overall GPA of 3.0.
5. Be a U.S. citizen or have lawfully entered the U.S. as a permanent resident.
6. Meet medical and physical fitness standards.
7. Have a favorable security investigation completed.
8. Meet service specific age requirements.

Q. How are candidates evaluated?

A. Records are reviewed and evaluated base on:

1. Undergraduate academic performance.
2. Letters of recommendation.
3. Demonstrated interest in military service.
4. Leadership potential.
5. Experience in foodservice and/or dietetics.
6. GRE Scores

Q. What is my service obligation?

A. After completing the 24-month Army Dietetic Internship/Masters Degree Program, officers must remain on active duty an additional 4 years. After completing the 9-month Air Force Internship Program officers must remain on active duty an additional 2 years.

Q: What are the benefits and goals of the Internship Program?

A: The Dietetic Internship Consortium will:

1. Upon graduation, enable dietetic students to be eligible to write the Registration Examination for Dietitians.
2. Develop leaders, ready and able to assume the diverse responsibilities of Service as dietitians of U.S. Armed Forces in support of the U.S. Armed Forces' missions.
3. Prepare graduates who uphold the ethical principles of both the military and the American Dietetic Association.
4. Prepare military dietitians who demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning.
5. Promote a learning environment that fosters communication, collaboration, problem-solving, and critical-thinking skills.
6. Provide an environment dedicated and focused towards learning, while getting paid a salary of approximately \$38,000 (This includes base salary as a 2nd Lieutenant (pay grade 0-1), housing allowance, and food allowance <http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/milpay>) .

Q: What costs are associated with the either program?

A: The applicants approximate costs if accepted in this program are:

1. No application or program fees. (D&D \$50.00 computer matching)
2. Local transportation costs.
3. Professional Membership in American Dietetic Association - \$43.
4. Professional Membership in Local Dietetic Association - variable.
5. Uniforms - Variable.
6. Social and Cultural events - \$200.
7. Textbooks - \$300

Q: What is Computer Matching?

A: All applicants to the Consortium must participate in computer matching. Applicants should request these instructions and a mark/sense card to prioritize their dietetic internship preferences. Applicants should request this material from any CADE-approved Didactic Program in Dietetics or from D&D Digital Systems, 137 Lynn Avenue, Ames, IA 50014. This request should be made to allow turn around time to meet the submission deadline. There is no charge for this material. However, there is a \$50.00 charge for computer matching that is due with the applicants' prioritized ranking. For specific requirements and more information on applying to the program, contact the program directors (<http://www.eatright.org/cade/di.html>) , an Army recruiter (http://www.goarmy.com/amedd/find_a_recruiter.jsp), or Air Force recruiter (<http://go.mappoint.net/airforce/PrxInput.aspx>).

Q: What kind of rotations will I have during the Internship/Supervised Practice portion of the Army or Air Force Program?

A: Training rotations include:

1. Food Service Rotations: 372 hours of practical experience in food service systems, focusing on quality management, cost containment, customer satisfaction, and systems aspects of food service.
2. Clinical Rotations: 436 hours of practical experience in Medical Nutrition Therapy, developing and implementing nutrition care plans for inpatients with a variety of diagnoses.
3. Community Rotations: 96 hours of practical experience in community nutrition, rotating through a Wellness Center and interacting with dietitians working in community nutrition programs. Interns will spend an additional 1 to 2 weeks at a small military community hospital.
3. Military Skills Rotations: 10 day Joint Field Nutrition Operations course at Camp Bullis, TX <http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/Bullistraining> . Interns live in a field environment and receive practical experience training on medical field feeding. Course also includes discussion on the role of the dietitian in Stability operations – domestic and nation assistance.

Q. For the Army, where are the Phase II training/Internship sites located and what are they like?

A. The Army Phase II/Internship Training sites are:

1. Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio Texas <http://www.bamc.amedd.army.mil>
2. Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington D.C. <http://www.wramc.amedd.army.mil>
3. Womack Army Medical Center, Fayetteville, NC. <http://www.wamc.amedd.army.mil>
4. Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma, WA (beginning in 2008) <http://www.mamc.amedd.army.mil/mamc/mamcexthome.htm>

Q. For the Air Force, where does the Internship take place and what is it like?

A. Wilford Hall Medical Center, San Antonio, TX <http://www.whmc.af.mil/WELCOME.HTM>

Q. What kind of Masters Degree will be awarded?

A. Upon successful completion of the didactic and research requirements, students will be awarded a Masters of Science in Nutrition.

Q. What coursework will be required for the Masters Degree portion of the Dietetic Internship/Masters Degree program?

A. Following is a approximate list of the courses and schedule required for successful completion of the MS Degree (Exact schedule may vary from what is listed).

Phase I

Phase 1 (YEAR 1) at AMEDDC&S			
Quarter 1 (Jul 1)	Quarter 2 (Oct 1)	Quarter 3 (1 Jan)	Quarter 4 (1 Apr)
Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC)	Didactics	Didactics	Didactics
	Advanced Nutr Biochemistry (4)	Vitamin & Mineral Metabolism (3)	Advanced Nutrition and Critical Care (3)
	Advanced Human Physiology (3)	Nutrition and Performance (3)	Complimentary Alternative Medicine and Nutrition Supplements(3)
	Research Methods and Design (3)	Protocol Development (2)	Protocol Presentation and Defense (2)
	Ethics/Human Use (2)	Practical Statistics (3)	Advanced Nutrition Assessment with Lab (4)
	Research Eval (2)	Force Protection (4)	Medical Intelligence (Cultural Issues) (1)
			Nutrition in Stability Operations (3)
	Current Issues in Nutrition (1)	Current Issues in Nutrition (1)	Current Issues in Nutrition (1)
	15 Credits	16 Credits	17 Credits

Phase II

Phase II (YEAR 2) at WRAMC, BAMC, WAMC, MAMC			
Quarter 5 (1 Jul)	Quarter 6 (1 Oct)	Quarter 7 (1 Jan)	Quarter 8 (1 Apr)
Supervised Practice (Internship/Research)	Supervised Practice (Internship/Research)	Supervised Practice (Internship/Research)	Supervised Practice (Internship/Research)
Thesis: Begin Data Collection		Thesis: Data Analysis	Thesis: Write-up *Thesis/Report
Research (3)	Research (3)	Research (3)	Research (3)
3 Credits	3 Credits	3 Credits	3 Credits